

**The Cyrenius H. Booth Library Minutes**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting 9**  
**Tuesday, March 8, 2022 7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Greg Branecky, Elaine Corbo, Dana Flynn, Laura Goldstein, Beth Hamilton, Elizabeth Litt, Donna Rahtelli, Anne Rothstein, David Schill, Steve Schoen, Katie Smith, Rose Marie Zaharek

**Absent:** Michelle Brown, Amy Dent, Nicole Moeller, Alex Villamil

**Staff:** Doug Lord, Jennifer Nash, Kaki Taylor

**Public:** Denise Kaiser

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by the Vice President Donna Rahtelli.

**Consideration of Minutes:**

*Laura made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 8, 2022 meeting, and Greg seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.*

**Public Participation:** None

**President's Announcements:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Greg reviewed the monthly financial statement. Revenues are up because of the Annual Fund Drive and the Turkey Trot. Expenses are under budget because of the payroll. HVAC, furniture, and Architect's fees have offset expenses. Overall, there is a net income of \$89,182.

**Library Director's Report:** Mr. Lord noted the unprecedented number of skilled MLS positions in the field, including one open position at the library. He noted that the op-ed pages of The Newtown Bee show that the community is not immune to the political blarney associated with book banning. He also specifically praised Jennifer Nash for her tremendous effectiveness at keeping myriad efforts, programs, and tiny fires under control.

**Committee Reports:**

**Governance** – The Governance Committee met on March 1, reviewed reserve policies that were submitted by Greg Branecky, and returned the policies to the Finance Committee for clarification, with the goal of meeting jointly with the Finance Committee in April.

**Development** – The Scavenger Hunt fundraiser will be Saturday May 21 from 10-4, and Sunday May 22 from 12-4. The Development Committee will need all Board members to volunteer to help at the event.

**Finance** – See Treasurer's Report

**Long-Range Planning** – Bob Serow has submitted preliminary summaries of focus groups consisting of BOT, Friends and Staff. The committee has identified community and business individuals for groups in mid-March, and is contacting them to solicit participation.

**Building and Grounds** – The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet on March 9. Southport Engineering is finalizing the HVAC plan; once that is received, the committee will review options and make recommendations. The slate roof expert temporarily fixed the cracked and shifted tiles which are responsible for the leaks in the slate roof. He said that the asphalt roof should be okay for a few years, but the dormers must be fixed as soon as possible. This information will be presented to the Legislative council at a date to be arranged.

**Art and Historical** – The Art and Historical Committee did not meet this month, and will be meeting March 10. The library is pursuing multiple ways to protect and highlight portions of the permanent collections.

**Friends of the Library Liaison** –Jenn is encouraging library staff to submit Vision Project requests. Book Sale donations have been coming in at a good pace. Friends will sponsor a Spring Donation Day. Friends need someone to coordinate Anthropology, Sociology and Issues donations. The Library will provide dinner on Saturday, July 9, 2022 to celebrate the opening of the event. Written confirmation from the director of school facilities for use of Reed School for the book sale has not yet been received. The Little Book Store continues to do well and will be moving into the audio book room. Membership year-to-date amounts continue to be greater than last year.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion-** Reviewed and discussed the library's DEI initiatives in staff development, programming, collaborations and exhibits. Community participant Sherie Roberts praised the library for being a hub of civil discourse in the community, & suggested ideas for additional DEI initiatives.

**Old Business:** None

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** None

*A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Laura and seconded by Katie. All approved. Motion passed.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betsy Litt, Secretary  
C.H. Booth Library Board of Trustees

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE C. H. BOOTH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT THE NEXT MEETING**